

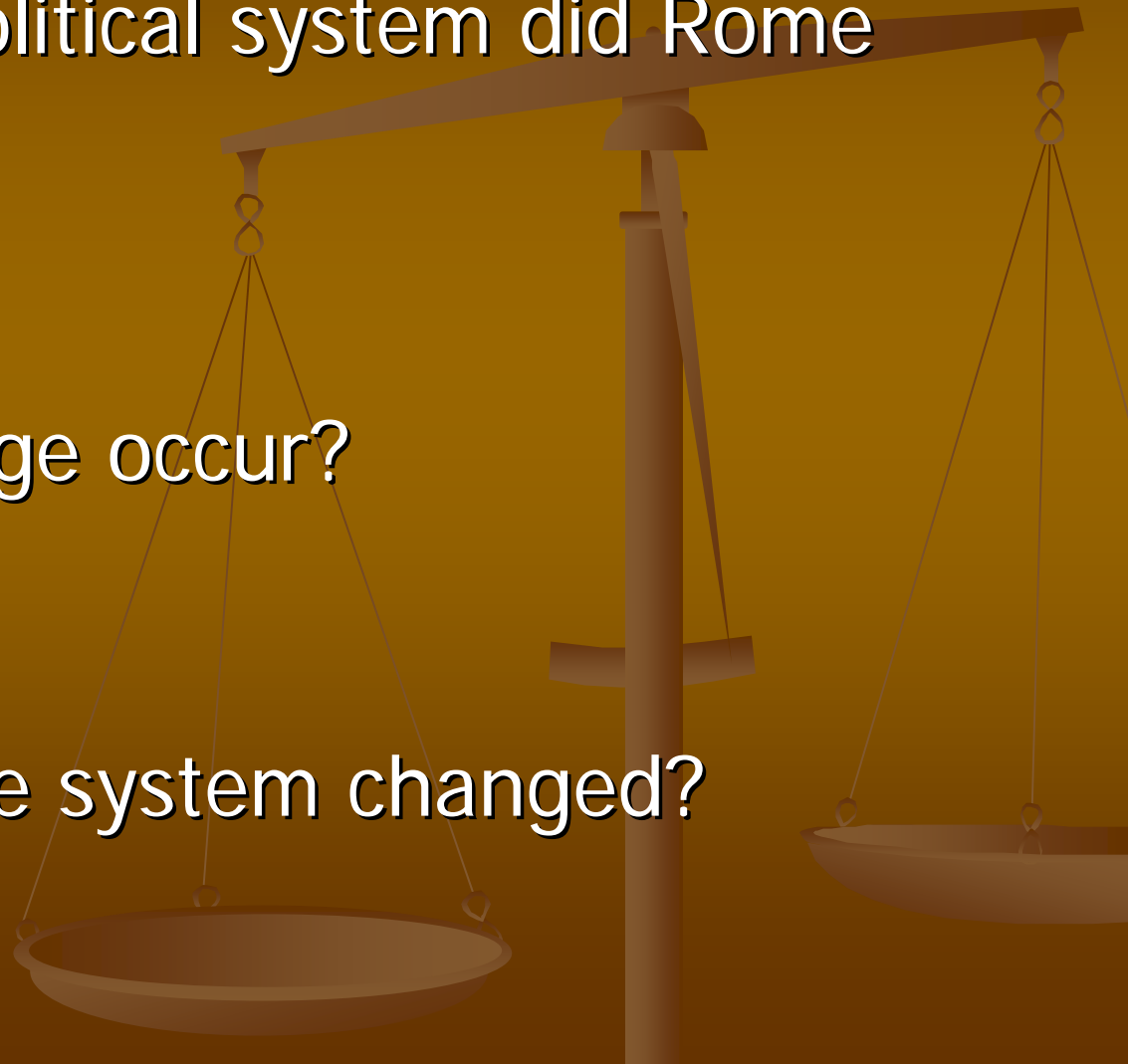
Ancient Rome spreads its power

Rome's Government
A Republic



Rome's political history

- What type of political system did Rome originally use?
- Why did a change occur?
- To what was the system changed?



Rome's Balanced Government...

please note balance scale of government in background

- To achieve the “best” balance Rome mixed monarchy, aristocracy with a smidgeon of democracy
 - Rome “A Republic”- Representative Government
- What's a democratic republic?
 - What's an example of a democratic republic?

Office of the Consul – Monarchy

Executive Branch

- There were 2 consuls
- Directed army and government
- But their power was limited by 3 rules

VETO- Each Consul had the power to veto the other

TERM OF OFFICE- 1 year term

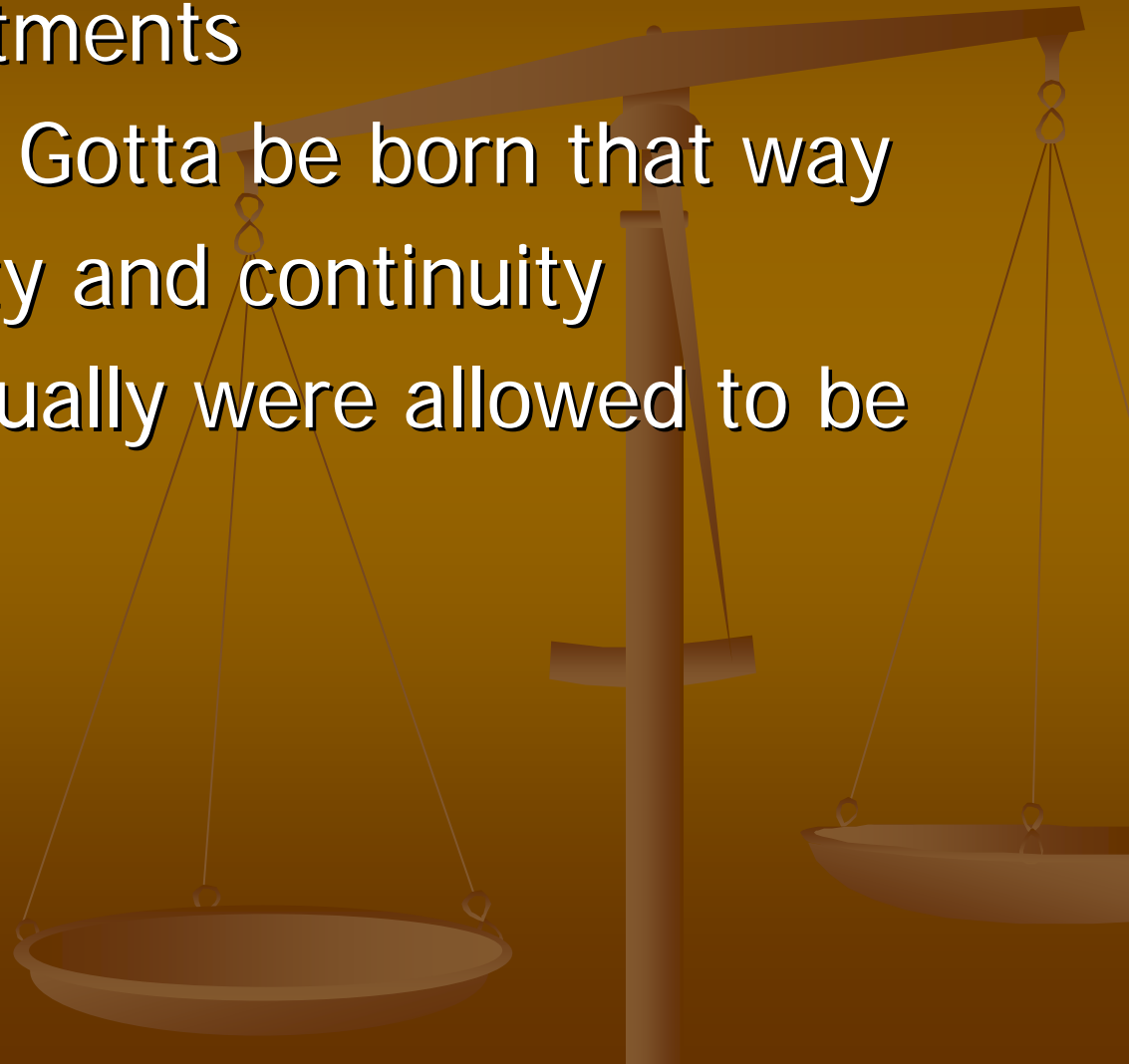
MAXIMUM # TERMS?- Only once every 10 years

How powerful would the US President be if there were co-Presidents
With one year terms who could act as President only 1 year out of every 10?

Senate – Aristocracy

Legislative Branch

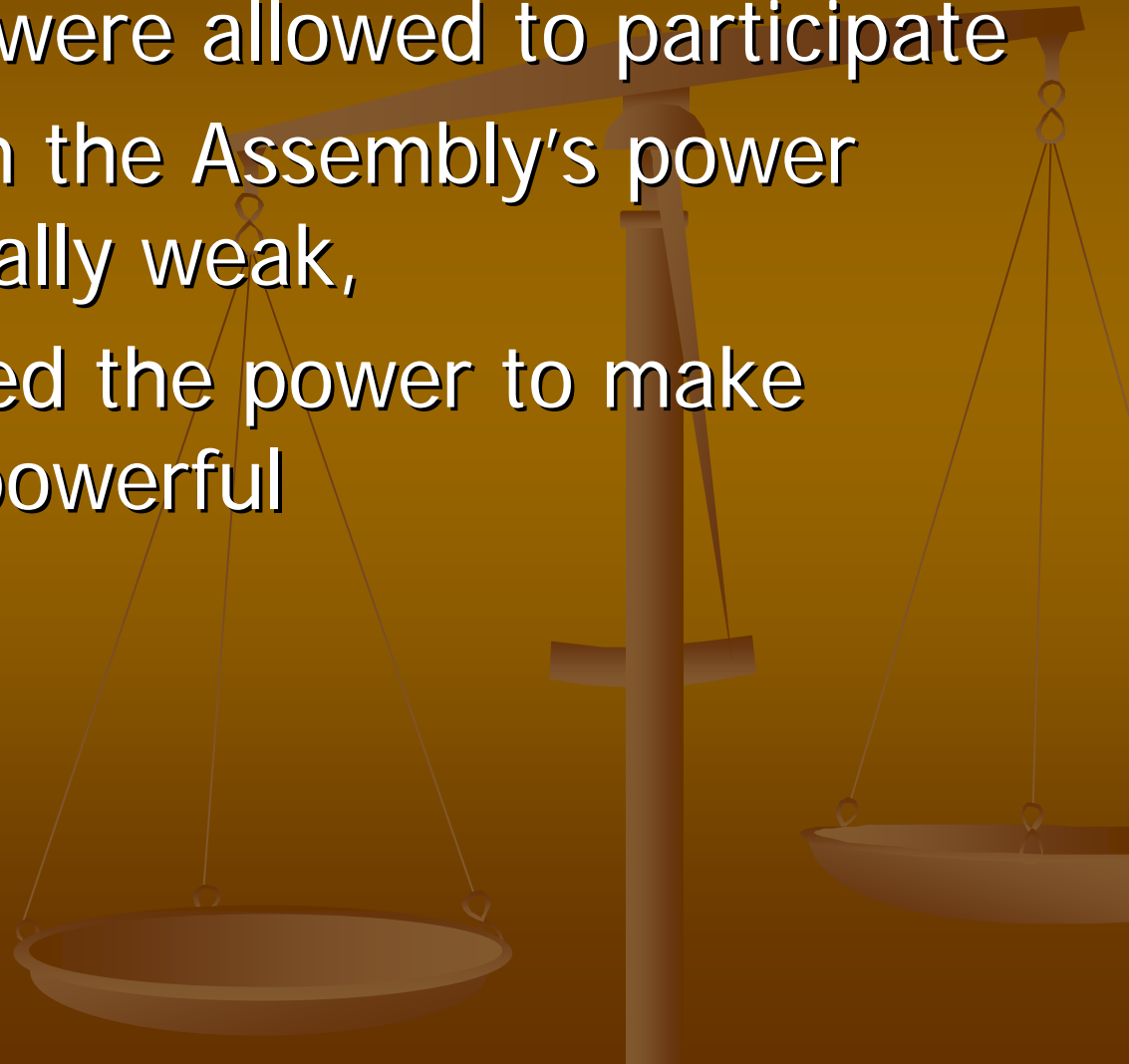
- Lifetime appointments
- Only Patricians- Gotta be born that way
- Provided stability and continuity
- Plebeians eventually were allowed to be senators



Assembly – Democracy

Legislative Branch

- Citizen soldiers were allowed to participate
- As time went on the Assembly's power increased. Initially weak,
- Eventually gained the power to make laws...became powerful



Dictators – in a league all their own

Absolute RULE!!!

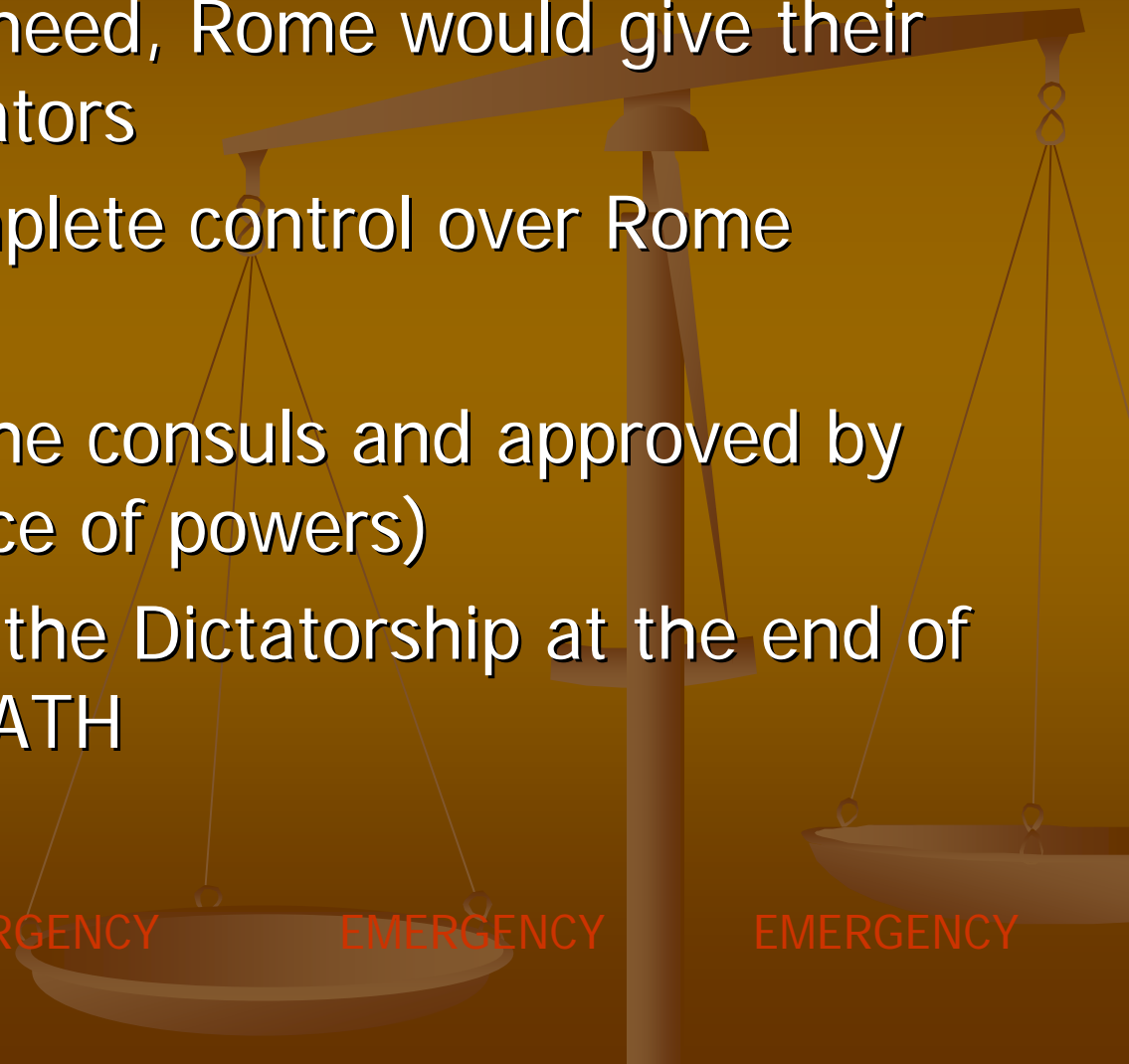
- In times of great need, Rome would give their leadership to dictators
- Dictators had complete control over Rome
- 6 months term
- Were chosen by the consuls and approved by the senate (balance of powers)
- Failure to give up the Dictatorship at the end of the term ----→DEATH

EMERGENCY

EMERGENCY

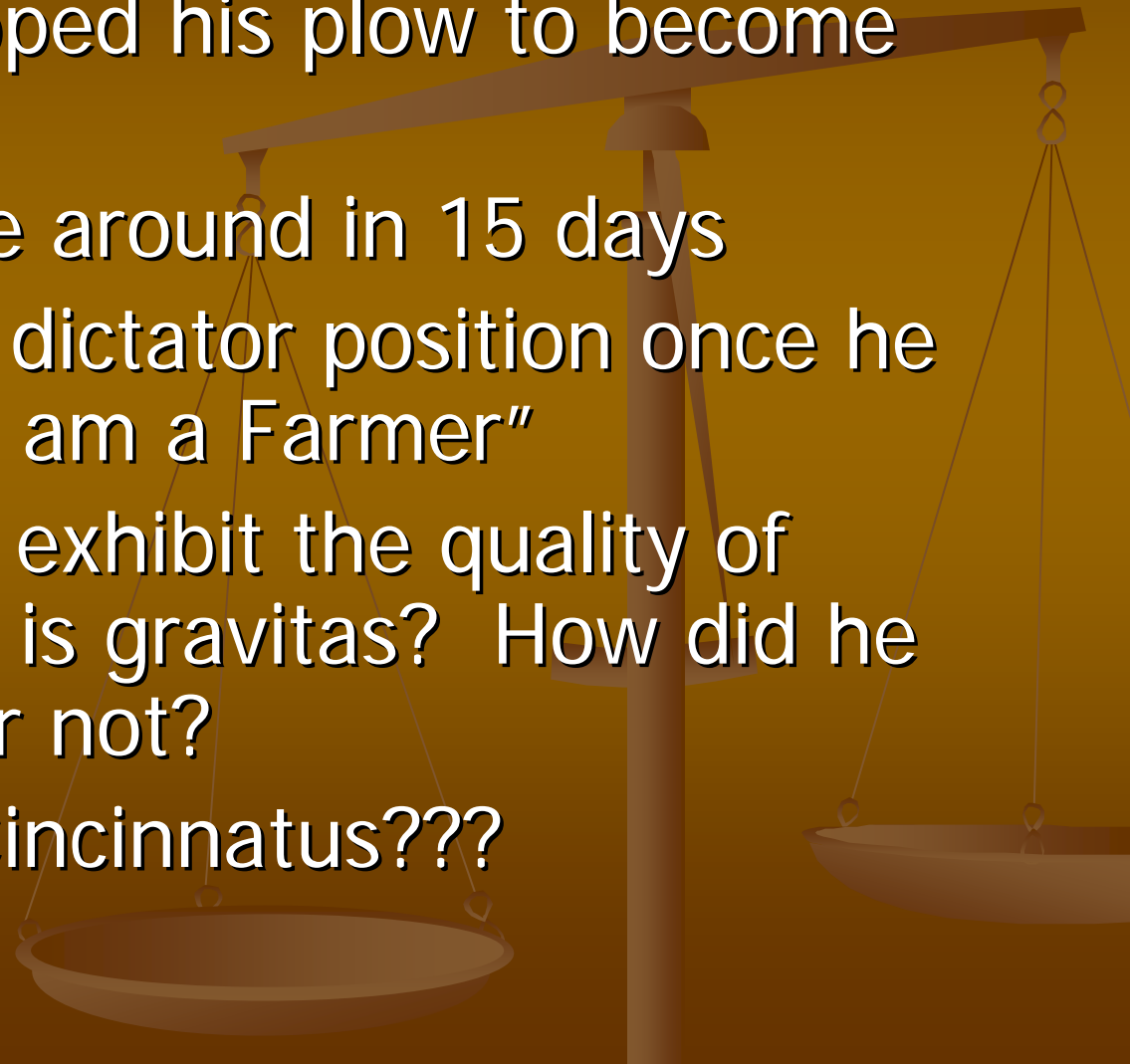
EMERGENCY

EMERGENCY



Cincinnatus – The best dictator a civilization could ask for

- He literally dropped his plow to become dictator
- He turned Rome around in 15 days
- He gave up the dictator position once he fixed Rome – “I am a Farmer”
- Did Cincinnatus exhibit the quality of gravitas? What is gravitas? How did he either show it or not?
- The American Cincinnatus???



Cincinnatus in Cincinnati



Rome Expands

- Rome was taking over Latin and Etruscan areas
- The Gauls sacked Rome in 380 BC
 - This was incentive for Rome to rebuild its city walls much stronger...which they did
- As Rome expanded further, they started to also take over the Greek colonies
 - Greeks looked to a popular Greek King (Pyrrhus) to see to help them
 - Pyrrhus temporarily drives out the Romans, but loses so many men it is almost as if he lost the fight anyway...it was a Pyrrhic Victory.

Rome gets **BIGGER**

- Rome extended citizenship to close territories...those on the “frontier” were made “half citizens”
- The alternative to not accepting Roman citizenship and rule was certain death and destruction
- Rome succeeded where Athens failed because each conquered area became part of Rome and benefited from the further conquests, rather than being just Rome’s subjects

